

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ ONLY

COUNTRY Hungary REPORT NO. 25X1

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Koermend and Szombathely

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 25 February 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY

25X1

Koermend.

1. On 2 and 3 January 1952, the Battyanyi Castle in Koermend (P 48/C 76) was occupied by Soviet troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. From 30 to 40 trucks on blocks and 15 to 20 canvas-covered armored vehicles were seen in the park of the castle. 25X1
25X1 25X1 driven
25X1 toward Vasvár (P 48/C 86) was occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. 25X1
2. Soviet officers were billeted in the Korona hotel northwest of the castle. They wore golden and silver epaulets. Local residents said that a Soviet counter intelligence office was located in the former inn on Vasut Street. **
3. Numerous officers, including field grade officers, were seen in the former district court building, a three-story corner building, south of the Battyanyi Castle.
4. On 2 and 3 January, some Soviet soldiers were observed in the former Infantry Barracks on the west side of the road to Szombathely, just south of the point where the road crossed the railroad line. The installation had been restored; all debris had been cleared away. Local residents said that the former Border Guard Barracks on Vasut Street was also occupied by Soviet troops.
5. On 4 January, about 40 Soviet soldiers with submachine guns, rifles and two mortars of about 80 mm were seen practicing in the vicinity of Koermend. Two 76.2-mm AT guns were observed on the market square on 5 January. The total number of troops at the post in early January 1952 was estimated at upwards of 1,000 men.
6. The following trucks were seen in the streets of Koermend between 26 December 1951 and 5 January 1952:

25X1



Service color of driver
black epaulets

Location

Driving toward Szombathely
Coming from the direction of
Szentgotthard (Y 3/C 45)
Coming from the direction of
Zalaegerszeg
Driving toward Zalaegerszeg

red-bordered black
epaulets

Document No. 4

No Change in Class. ☐

☐ Reclassified

Class. Changed To: TS 2

Auth: 11-9-78

Date: 11-9-78

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1

25X1

25X1

<u>Service color of driver</u>	<u>Location</u>
red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia	
red-bordered black epaulets	In front of the railroad station
red-bordered black epaulets	
red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia	At the former district court
	Coming from a southeasterly direction

*

Szombathely.

7. About 100 trucks, numerous smaller motor vehicles and 24 canvas-covered artillery pieces with pear-shaped muzzle brakes were seen in the New Gendarmerie Barracks, Szombathely, in early January 1952. Soviet trucks were parked on the premises of the former vocational school and the MAV athletic field on the west side of Rohonci Street. A high board fence blocked a view of the parking lot from the street. Eighteen large tents containing tanks were seen on the aforementioned premises from a nearby apartment house. There were also other tents. ***

25X1

* [] Comment. Most of the vehicles observed belong to the 17th Gds Mech Div.

25X1

25X1

25X1

** [] Comment. The Korona hotel and the former district court were still vacant as late as the end of October 1951. []

25X1

25X1

*** [] Comment. The Szombathely military post is still heavily occupied by Soviet tank and motorized units.

SECRET/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY